

# THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## FACULTY OF SCIENCE

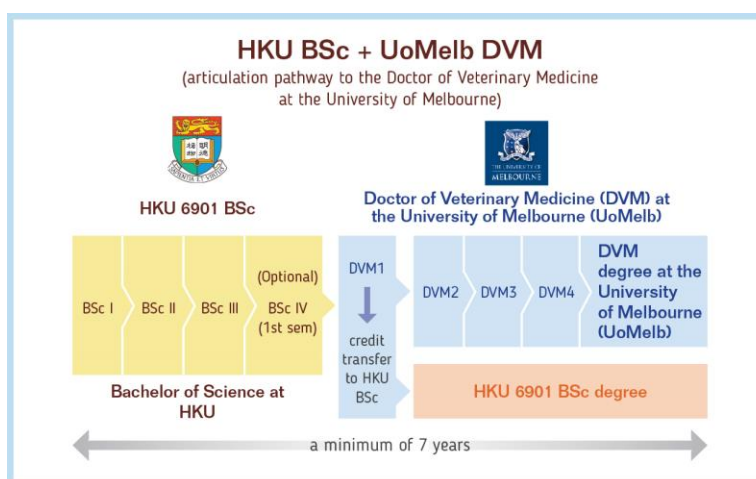
### Information Sheet on Articulation pathway to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Melbourne

#### 1. Overview of the articulation pathway

In collaboration with the University of Melbourne (UoMelb) in Australia, HKU Faculty of Science provides an articulation pathway to BSc 6901 students of the following majors to articulate into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) of UoMelb:

- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences (intensive major excluded)
- Molecular Biology & Biotechnology (intensive major excluded)
- Ecology & Biodiversity (intensive major excluded)
- Food & Nutritional Science

Selected students can study in DVM of UoMelb after studying for at least 6 semesters and gaining at least 186 credits under BSc 6901 programme. Credits obtained during the 1st year of study in DVM can be transferred, subject to relevant HKU regulations, for the purpose of fulfilling the credit requirements of the BSc programme. Students can obtain the HKU BSc degree after transferring the remaining credits from the 1st year in DVM, and obtain the DVM in UoMelb in no less than 7 years.



#### 2. Timeline for 2021-22 cohort as reference

HKU BSc							UoMelb DVM							
2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024 (Sept-Dec)	2025		2026		2027		2028	
BSc I 1 <sup>st</sup> sem (sem 1)	BSc I 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem (sem 2)	BSc II 1 <sup>st</sup> sem (sem 3)	BSc II 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem (sem 4)	BSc III 1 <sup>st</sup> sem (sem 5)	BSc III 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem (sem 6)	BSc IV 1 <sup>st</sup> sem (sem 7) (OPTIONAL)	DVM I 1 <sup>st</sup> sem*	DVM I 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem*	DVM II 1 <sup>st</sup> sem	DVM II 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem	DVM III 1 <sup>st</sup> sem	DVM III 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem	DVM IV 1 <sup>st</sup> sem	DVM IV 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem

\*credits transfer back to HKU

Application starts in  
Nov 2023

Deadline of application in Jan 2024  
Selection and announcement of offer in  
July-Aug 2024

### **3. About DVM at UoMelb**

The UoMelb is a renowned university in the global arena. It ranks 37<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024 and QS World University Rankings 2024 respectively. The DVM also ranks 26<sup>th</sup> in Veterinary Science of QS World University Rankings 2023.

The DVM is Australia's first graduate-entry, professional veterinary science qualification. It embraces a strong foundation in veterinary science, the latest clinical technologies and evidenced-based practices, and draws on the wealth of experience from the academics of UoMelb. It recognises the pivotal role of animals in society, and prepares students to become leaders in management, welfare and care of animals in diverse settings. Its Tracks programme also prepares students best for their chosen career path, by concentrating their studies on a particular area of clinical interest and gaining complementary industry-ready skills and knowledge.

The DVM programme is internationally accredited. Their accreditation allows graduates to obtain employment as a practising veterinarian in many countries, without further training. The DVM is accredited by Australasian Veterinary Boards Council Inc (Australia), American Veterinary Medical Association (USA) and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (UK). Degree holders are also qualified to register as veterinary surgeons and practise in HK through Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong.

Detailed information of the DVM programme at UoMelb can be found at <https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/doctor-of-veterinary-medicine/>.

### **4. Eligibility and selection of students**

Application will be invited in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of Year 3. Interview will be conducted to assess the applicants' potential and suitability for the programme. Announcement of offer will be made by the end of Year 3. Selected students should achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.45 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of Year 3 (and in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of year 4 if applicable) at HKU for entry into the DVM programme.

Students should provide a personal statement consisting of a one-page 500-words that demonstrates student's long-standing interest and commitment to animal health, production and welfare. This statement should include an introduction (max 100 words) and a table documenting any experience with animals, such as work experience relevant to veterinary science, participation in animals care or welfare organizations or other relevant activities. The table should document activity undertaken, date, duration (hours), description of the activity and a contact email that can confirm that the activity occurred.

Selected students would be invited to undertake an on-line CASPer Situational Judgement Test in 2024, which assesses "people skills" such as empathy, professionalism, resilience and ethics by presenting applicants with realistic, hypothetical scenarios and asking the individual a series of open-ended questions about how they would respond to the scenario. For further information about the CASPer Situational Judgement Test, see here: <https://acuityinsights.app/casper/>.

### **5. Number of students**

A maximum of 5 places will be offered annually.

## 6. Fees

Students will pay the tuition of HKU for the regular semesters when they study the BSc programme at HKU.

Students will pay study abroad tuition fee (rate in 2023 for reference: AUD \$48,510) to UoMelb for the first year of the DVM.

For the subsequent three years in the DVM, students will pay international student tuition fees (rate in 2023 for reference: AUD\$80,448 per year) to UoMelb.

## 7. Structure of the articulation pathway

For the minimum 3 years of study at HKU, students are required to complete at least 186 credits, including the fulfillment of major requirement and UG5 requirement. Also, UoMelb requires students to have completed at least 1 semester of Biology courses, 1 Chemistry course or 1 advanced level Biochemistry course as prerequisite for the DVM. The below illustrates the number of credits that students shall take each year to fulfill the graduation requirements:

Year	Courses/ Fulfillment of requirement	Number of credits
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>96 HKU credits in one of the science majors: Biological Sciences, Molecular Biology &amp; Biotechnology, Ecology &amp; Biodiversity, Food &amp; Nutritional Science, Biochemistry</li> <li>36 HKU credits in common core courses</li> <li>18 HKU credits of language courses (12 credits of English courses, 6 credits of Chinese course) and non-credit bearing course UG5E1001</li> <li>At least 36 HKU credits of free elective courses (should include 1 Chemistry course or 1 advanced Biochemistry course if not yet included in the major)</li> </ul>	At least 186 credits
Year 2		
Year 3		
Year 4 1 <sup>st</sup> semester (Optional, opportunities for enrichment experience available)		
Year 4 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester and Year 5 1 <sup>st</sup> semester (DVM I)	Courses in DVM I	At most 54 credits (by credit transfer from 100 UoMelb points in DVM I)
<b>Qualification attained:</b>	<b>BSc degree at HKU</b>	Total: 240 HKU credits
Year 5 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester to Year 8 1 <sup>st</sup> semester (DVM II to IV)	Courses in DVM II to IV	300 UoMelb points
<b>Qualification attained:</b>	<b>DVM degree at UoMelb</b>	Total: 400 UoMelb points

Students are advised to plan early and consult course selection advisers/ academic advisers regarding the fulfillment of major requirement and UG5 requirement prior to studying the DVM programme.

## **8. Credit conversion arrangement**

Under the articulation pathway, credits earned during the first year of study at the DVM will be transferred to count for the final year of the HKU BSc as follows:

The first year of DVM study consists of 100 points, with 4 modules of 12.5 points each per semester. Students can transfer up to 54 HKU credits upon the completion of the DVM I at UoMelb.

November 2018

November 2023 (revised)